

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A developing sleeve for a magnetic brush  
developing unit, which is provided with a plurality of  
axially parallel grooves formed at a predetermined  
pitch in the circumferential direction on the surface  
thereof, is disclosed. Each of the grooves and the  
interfacing portion between each groove and its  
adjacent circumferential surface curve gradually and  
10 gently in section in the circumferential direction of  
the developing sleeve. The pitch for the formation of  
the grooves is set to be equal to or larger than the  
difference in travel length between the surface of the  
developing sleeve and that of a photosensitive drum  
15 during the time required for a point on the  
photosensitive drum to move along the full length of a  
developing area.

